



Ss Michael & John's Parish

Horsham-Dimboola-Murtoa-Natimuk-Rupanyup

BULLETIN

The Ascension of Our Lord - 8th May 2016



Men of Mercy



Men's Retreat

Sunday
May 22nd
9.30 to 4
in the Parish
Centre

Including Mass for participants.

Come and join other men in a relaxed and peaceful environment designed to refresh the soul, and explore our spiritual well-being in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Leader on the day is Paul White a qualified spiritual director, member of the Campion Outreach Team and St. Brendan's Parish Men's Group, Shepparton.

Cost : \$20 (or what you can afford)

Lunch and cuppas provided
Please register by May 15th with
Patrick Ellis 0428847455,
or leave your name at the Office
All men and sons are invited.

PRAYER for SICK and CARERS

Compassionate and ever-loving God, You are the source of all healing power. We entrust our sick brothers and sisters to your loving care. We pray that your blessings be upon all those in their own homes, in hospitals, nursing homes, hospice, palliative care. May You be their source of comfort when they experience pain. May You be their source of hope in moments of despair, woundedness and sorrow. May You be their inspiration and solace when they are unable to lift their hearts, minds and voices to You in prayer. Bless them all with the courage and faith to place their trust in your healing touch and your healing love. Bless those who are **caregivers**, as channels of your tender love, for they are your very hands on this earth. Give them gentleness as they help those who are sick, that they respect the dignity and value of the sick to You. Give them patience as they manage their time, to best serve those in need of their care. Give them courage to continue to serve when weakened by constant demands, and when they need your enduring help and strength. Give them love, understanding to be a caring companion, as they walk the path of pain and sadness with the sick. Bless the **ministry** of those who take Holy Communion to the sick, elderly, those in Homes and in the Hospital.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
Parish Secretary: Anita Masiero

10 Roberts Ave Horsham 3400
PO Box 212, Horsham Vic 3402
Phone: 5382 1155.

Fax: 5382 3016

Email:

horsham@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Diocesan Website:

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au

SCHOOLS

Ss Michael & John Primary

Principal: Andrea Cox

Phone: 5382 3000

St Brigid's College

Principal: Peter Gutteridge

Phone: 5382 3545

Our Lady Help of Christians

Principal: Gary Typuszak

Phone: 5385 2526

National Catholic Church and Ballarat Diocese Mass Count in the month of May, of those attending Mass and LLA.

We ask the collectors to take the count and write numbers on the forms provided.

Thank you.

* Rupanyup Community Mass this Wednesday May 11th at 6.30pm at Weideman's.

*Natimuk Nursing Home Mass this Thursday 12th at 4.15pm

***Liturgy Meeting at 12.30pm** this Wednesday May 11th in the Meeting Room. All welcome

A Blessed and Happy MOTHER'S DAY

Loving God, a mother gives life and nourishment to her children. Watch over your Church and bless all mothers and our families, and strengthen us with your Gospel of love and hope. Let the example of our mother's faith and love shine forth. May we honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. We remember our deceased Mums and children, we pray for families separated in any way.

A mother's love is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking, it never fails or falters, even when the heart is breaking

We welcome Sts Michael and John School families as the children lead us in the Ministries at 10.30 Mass.

The children will give to mothers, grandmothers, guardians a flower after Mass.

St Mary's Church Murtoa Picnic



When: next Sunday May 15th

Time: 11.30 am after 10.30 School Mass at St Mary's Church

Where: Murtoa Racecourse. BBQ lunch provided but a small plate of slice to share with a cuppa would be appreciated. Fun and games. BYO drinks and chairs.

WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 10th May	5.30pm	
Wednesday 11th May	9.30am	
Thursday 12th May	9.30am	Nicholas Brophy
Friday 13th May	9.30am	WUCWO CWL Mass
Saturday 14th May	10.00a	St Matthias, Ap,

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, my creator, breathe on me, renew me, refresh me, extend my abilities, comfort me in adjusting to changes in health, mobility and activity. Body of Jesus Christ flow through every fibre of my being. Keep me well, and hope filled, always. Holy Spirit use me in my situation, for the good of others. Amen



Please Remember in Your Prayers

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: John de Vaan, Marie Brooker, Grace Kane Elisa Sartori, Nicholas Brophy, Joseph Murphy, Bartly Kane, Brian Hernon

SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Bill Kennedy, Corey Panozzo, Brian Rice, Susan Finnigan, Stephen Sherman, Helen Brennan, , Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Jill and Christie Higgenbottom, Roma Magee, Joy Flynn, Peter Kelly, Fred Webb, Frances Mitchell, Lourdes Stanislaus.

Emergency Care: Contact Coordinator

Betty 5382 6688

Confessions Saturday after Mass (10.25)

Saturday Morning Devotions:
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20
Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church. 10am Mass

**Next Sunday 3rd Sunday of the Month
Pentecost Sunday - 15th May 2016**

Horsham Saturday - 6.30pm Sunday - 10.30am

Dimboola **Sunday Mass 8.30am**

Murtoa **Sunday Mass 10.30am**

**Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet
HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.**

Regular Activities in the Parish

Mother's Prayer Group Fortnightly Every Wednesday
2.00pm Church Meeting Room Contact Marina 5382 1047

Ss Michael & John's Playgroup Tuesday's in school
terms 10am to 12 noon - Parish Hall. Contact 0428 119 234

Craft Group Every Monday - Parish Meeting Room
Mornings - 9.30am to 11.30am. Evening - 7pm to 9pm. BYO
Craft - Gold Coin Donation. Contact Anita at Parish Office

Meditation Group Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm
Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807

CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm in Meeting Room.

Men's Group Meet 3rd Thursday of the month, breakfast
7.30am-8.30, Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428 847 455

St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available
Monday & Friday 11am-12pm, for assistance. Phone 5381 2371

BAPTISM PREPARATION EVENINGS 3rd Thursday of each
Month at 7.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Forms to be filled in with
the Parish Office prior. Contact is the Parish Office 53821155.

Piety Stall in the Church has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation,
Eucharist, cards, medals etc., lovely Peru crosses.

CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm.

Free counselling, support offered by Centacare Ballarat
for families, individuals affected by the drought and other
issues. **Free call 1300 303 988** to make an appointment.
Centacare can visit your home; they use our Parish Interview
Room. Totally confidential, there is much Government money
available, so don't hesitate to ring this number, times
arranged to suit you and your needs. Support open to any
family member.

ROSTERS

May 7/8	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvanna Foster Lorraine Clancy Micky Roberts Rosie Taylor Sr Jacinta Rice Peter Gutteridge Joan Parker	Julie Antonoff Karen Hill Kingsley Dalgleish Shirley Hoffmann Judy Reid Andrea Cox Faye Wills
May 14/15	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Maree Plazzer	Anna Robertson
Commentator	Paige Butler	Dianne Noy
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Cathy Taylor Pat Glaubitz Bob Hayes Bernadette Trounce Simon Lynch Maree Plazzer Maureen Ervin	Cate Rigby Russell Reid Mary Marshall Tim Lannen Mary Dalgleish Zita Cannane Alison McKinnon
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Gabby Mills
Musicians	Chris Roberts	Teresa Bottoms
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	Sharon Creasey Beth Johnson
Prayers	John & Joan Parker	
Children's Liturgy		Emily Hobbs
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	15th May Anna Robertson Jenny Clarke Bernie Lakin Rhonda Tursi	22nd May Helen Hunter Margaret Fischer Dianne Quinn Maureen McInerney
FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)		
Natimuk	\$	Murtoa \$ 119.00
Horsham	\$ 831.00	Dimboola \$ 70.00
Total		\$ 1020.00
2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)-Wk 25 <i>Credit Card and Direct Debit figures for April</i>		
Envelopes	\$ 1020.00	Loose \$ 358.70
Credit Card	\$ 2892.50	Direct Debit \$ 1941.67
Total		\$ 1378.70

Making Connections: Live joyfully this week. Try to bring joy to others. Practise continually praising God in all the small actions of your day.

Marriage Tip: When you feel negative about something your spouse says, try to look at the statement from a different perspective (especially his/hers) before responding.

Daily Prayer: God of all creation, whose mighty power raised Jesus from the dead, be present to this community of disciples whose hearts have been sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and whose bodies have been washed with the pure water of baptism. Clothe us now with power from on high, and send us forth as witnesses to the Messiah's resurrection from the dead.

A Vocation View: Our Spiritual Life is a Journey - following the Call of the Master to "Go and teach all people my Gospel." Say "Yes" over and over again.

Dear Lord, Help us to be your ears to listen to the cries of the poor, to be your voice speaking love and acceptance, to be your feet walking beside those in need, to be your hands to clothe, feed and shelter them. You came for the least, the

Country Mass Times in May:

May 15th: Dimboola Mass 8.30. Murtoa Mass 10.30am
May 22nd: Natimuk Mass 8.30. Dimboola LLA 8.30.
Murtoa LLA 9am
May 29th: Dimboola LLA 8.30. Murtoa Mass 8.30am.
June 5th: Dimboola Mass 8.30. Murtoa Mass 10.30.
June 12th: Dimboola Mass 8.30 Murtoa Mass 10.30.
June 19th: Dimboola Mass 8.30. Murtoa Mass 10.30.



*The Horsham Churches invite
the people of Horsham
to celebrate Pentecost
next Saturday 14th May at 7pm
in the Horsham Town Hall
Music, Prayer, Scripture*

*Guest Speaker: Kameel Majdali, Vision Radio
an Ecumenical experience
All welcome Supper following the evening*



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY
Sunday May 15th from 11.30 to 2pm
Students and Staff will conduct tours of
the College and speak to you about it.

2017 Year 7 Information Evening.
Wednesday May 18th at 7.30pm in the
College Library. Encourage families to come.



Catholic Education Week in the Ballarat Diocese
is from May 20th to 27th

Our Parish Schools' Catholic Education Week Mass is
on Friday May 20th at 11.30am in SMJ Church
Families and Parishioners welcome
The children and Staff will share lunch after Mass.

**CWL WUCWO Mass - World Union of Catholic
Women's Organizations** - this Friday May 13th at 9.30.

Our Horsham branch of the CWL will host the Annual
Diocesan CWL Conference on Wednesday May 18th in
the Parish Centre. Bishop Paul Bird will be celebrant at
the Conference Mass in the Church at 12 noon.

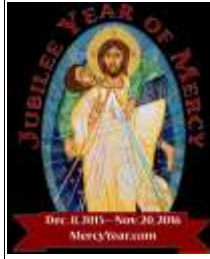
Bishop Paul Bird invites the priests and people of the
Ballarat Diocese to a Memorial Mass for Bishop
Mulkearns on Monday May 16th at 12.05pm in
St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

Coughlin Park Community Centre Update
for Users and interested Parishioners, this Monday
May 9th at 5pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

Sacrament Program. Please pray for our children and
their families. This week they prepare for Confirmation.
From May 16th they prepare for First Communion. They
will be presented to us at SMJ Masses on May 21 & 22.

PRAYER FOR RAIN:

Loving God, maker of all things and protector of your
people, in You we live and move and have our being.
In your mercy come to our aid, bless our land with rain.



Pope Francis' Year of Mercy Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us
to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees
you see Him. Show us your face and
we shall be saved. Send your Spirit,
and consecrate every one of us with
the Spirit's anointing, so that the

Jubilee of Mercy, may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and we your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may
bring good news to the poor. Let your Church be your
visible face in the world. We ask this of you, God of
mercy and forgiveness, through the intercession of
Mary, Mother of Mercy.

We pray this prayer at the end of the Intercessions



*Called to proclaim the mighty
acts of the Lord (1 Peter 2:9)*

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

8 - 15 May, 2016

from the Feast of the
Ascension today May
8th to next Sunday,
Pentecost, May 15th.
Christian Unity Week
unites Christians around

the world to celebrate diversity in unity, to make Chris-
tian unity a visible part of the call for justice and peace.

Prayer sheets, for each day, available today.

**Ecumenical Christian Unity Week Prayer
Service this Thursday May 12th in SMJ Church
at 7pm. Supper after. All welcome.**



Dr Rachel Carling-Jenkins, State Member
for Western Metropolitan Region, has
introduced the Infant Viability Bill and we
must support it. It is scheduled to be
debated in Parliament on the 25th May.

This is the first formal attempt at pro-life leg-
islation in Victoria in decades, and the first
legislative attempt to remedy the Abortion Law Reforms of
2008. Under this Bill: 1. Abortions would no longer be al-
lowed from the 24th week of pregnancy. 2. Infant viability will
be promoted and supported (all infants born alive from the
24th week onwards, including medical emergency, must be
cared for with the intent to save the infant's life). Please pray
for this Bill's success. **Copy of Bill's intent in the Foyers.**
Also a Prayer Sheet for a Novena is in the Foyers.

FIND TIME TO PRAY. The easiest and quickest prayer is the
examination of conscience popularized by St. Ignatius Loyola
Review your day at night. 5 steps: 1. Presence: Remind your-
self you're in God's presence. 2. Gratitude: Call to mind what-
ever you are grateful for that day: from a job well done, to
lunch with a friend, to a consoling phone call, etc. Savor all
those things and thank God. 3. Review: Think about the day
from start to finish, trying notice where God was. When did
you experience God? What was your response? 4. Sorrow:
How did I respond to God's invitation, or even sinned. Ask
God for forgiveness. 5. Grace: Ask for God's grace next day.

1st Reading Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, *Theophilus*, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 46:2-3. 6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28. 10:19-

It is not as though Christ has entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to

reward with salvation those who are waiting for him. In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he had opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our mind sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

Acclamation: Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

Gospel Reflection—Ascension Yr C, Sr Veronica Lawson rsm .

Loss is part of the human condition, and death is one of the most painful manifestations of loss. Today's Feast of the Ascension invites us to face the experience of loss in a transformative way. In Ordinary Time, we celebrate the life and ministry of Jesus. Over the period of Lent and Easter, we have been remembering his death and resurrection. As we come towards the end of the Easter season, the liturgy draws us into another aspect of the Mystery, that of the presence and absence of Jesus who has been raised. The Ascension story as found in today's first reading (Acts 1:1-11) presupposes a pre-scientific, three-tiered understanding of the structure of the world. In this ancient view, God is in the

heavens above and the prophet Jesus, like the prophet Elijah of old, is caught up into God's realm from whence the Holy Spirit will 'descend' upon God's people. This vertical (up and down) movement is balanced by a horizontal movement: Jesus' family and friends who grieve the loss of their loved one are told not to keep looking up to the heavens. They have work to do: they must return to Jerusalem for the present and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue the prophetic ministry of Jesus ("clothed with power from on high"), to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. They have to face the fact that the physical loss of Jesus means a new and different sort of presence and that they have a role to play in making him present in their world. Like us, the early

Christians needed time to grasp each dimension of the one great Mystery of God's life in their midst. The disciples who are gathered in Jerusalem, and not simply the Eleven, are to be witnesses to the death and resurrection of Jesus. They are to proclaim a gospel of repentance and forgiveness. In the gospel (Luke 24:47) their audience is "all peoples", while in Acts 1:8, they are commissioned to be witnesses to Jesus "in all Jerusalem, in Judaea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". Joy, prayer, and blessing have the final word in Luke's gospel. They have permeated the gospel story from the outset. As we prepare for the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we might reflect on the blessings in our lives and pray for the same spirit of joy that animated the earliest Christians.

Next Week's Gospel - John 14:15-16, Jesus said to his disciples 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever. 'If anyone loves me he will keep

my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to

you while still with you; the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.'